

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM USLO PEKING

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1942

FOR EA/PRCM, SCA, S/S, S/P, NSC

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS CVIS CH (CHANG Y.L.)

SUBJECT: CHANG NIV CASE

REF: PEKING 1910

1. SUMMARY:

MFA CONSULAR AFFAIRS DIVISION CHIEF CHANG JUI SUMMONED
OGDEN, USLO OFFICER DESIGNATED TO PERFORM CONSULAT
FUNCTION, TO MEETING OCTOBER 8 TO INFORM US THAT ALL
PRC CITIZENS APPLYING TO VISIT RELATIVES IN THE U.S.
JUST HANDLE FORMALITIES THROUGH THE OVERSEAS CHINESE
TRAVEL SERVICE, AND THAT NO PRC CITIZENS, INCLUDING
THE CHANGS, WILL BE ALLOWED TO VISIT USLO FOR
PERSONAL INTERVIEW. END SUMMARY.

2. CHANG BEGAN DISCUSSION BY STATING THAT HE WISHED
TO TALK ABOUT THE SPECIFIC QUESTION OF PRC CITIZEN
CHANG CHIN-SHIH AND HIS APPLICATION FOR ENTRY INTO
THE U.S. THE QUESTION HE SAID HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH MR.
PERITO ON SEPTEMBER 4, 1975; MFA HAD DISCUSSED WITH
THE DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED, AND TODAY WOULD LIKE TO
HAVE ANOTHER DISCUSSION CONCERNING FORMALITIES FOR
ALL PRC CITIZENS GOING TO THE U.S. TO VISIT RELATIVES.

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3. AT THIS POINT CHANG READ IN CHINESE FROM PREPARED

NOTES WHICH THE INTERPRETER RENDERED AS FOLLOWS:

"AS STIPULATED BY THE REGULATIONS OF OUR CONCERNED DEPARTMENTS, ALL FORMALITIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE APPLICATIONS LODGED WITH EMBASSIES IN PEKING FOR CHINESE CITIZENS GOING TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO VISIT RELATIVES ARE HANDLED BY THE OVERSEAS CHINESE TRAVEL SERVICE. SINCE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA HAVE NOT BEEN NORMALIZED, THERE IS NO REASON FOR AN ORGAN SUCH THE UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE TO BE AN EXCEPTION. THEREFORE, THE UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE CAN FORWARD THE APPLICATION FORMS FOR ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON MR. AND MRS. CHANG CHIN-SHIH THROUGH THE OVERSEAS CHINESE TRAVEL SERVICE TO ANSWER."

4. OGDEN ASKED CHANG IF THIS MEANT THAT THE CHANGS WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO VISIT USLO FOR A PERSONAL INTERVIEW. CHANG SAID YES, THAT WAS THE MEANING OF HIS STATEMENT, AND THEN SAID THAT NO CHINESE CITIZENS APPLYING TO VISIT RELATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE ALLOWED TO VISIT USLO FOR INTERVIEW, SINCE ACCORDING TO REGULATIONS ALL FORMALITIES ARE TO BE HANDLED BY THE OVERSEAS CHINESE TRAVEL SERVICE AND RELATED AGENCIES.

5. COMMENT: APPARENTLY THE CHINESE HAVE BEEN REVIEWING THE QUESTION OF PERSONAL APPEARANCES AT USLO SINCE WELL BEFORE THE 257A FLAP. CHANG JUI HAD ASKED NUMEROUS QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS REQUIREMENT IN A MARCH LUNCHEON AT THE USLO RESIDENCE.

6. THE CHINESE DO NOT ALLOW ACCESS FOR VISA PURPOSES TO THE BRITISH, AUSTRALIAN AND CANADIAN EMBASSIES, THOUGH OCCASIONALLY THEY ALLOW APPLICANTS TO ENTER TO RECLAIM THEIR VISAED PASSPORTS. (THE CANADIANS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING PEKING IMMIGRANT VISA INTERVIEWS IN THE PEKING HOTEL SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE REUNIFICATION PROGRAM, THOUGH THEY PLAN TO TRY TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON HOLDING THE INTERVIEWS IN THE EMBASSY DURING THE HONG KONG-BASED IMMIGRANT OFFICER'S VISIT
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IN NOVEMBER.)

7. WE, THEREFORE, DO NOT BELIEVE USLO HAS BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR DENIAL OF ACCESS, BUT THIS IS SMALL COMFORT BECAUSE, AS THE CHINESE PROBABLY KNOW, REGULATIONS OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN QUESTION MAKE IT EASIER FOR THEM THAN FOR US TO DISPENSE WITH PERSONAL APPEARANCES.

8. THE CHINESE HAVE NOT MENTIONED RECIPROCITY AS A
CONSIDERATION, ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND PRCLO FOR ITS
PART DOES NOT REQUIRE PERSONAL APPEARANCES
BY PRIVATE VISA APPLICANTS. IN ANY CASE, CHINESE
PROBABLY HAVE CONCLUDED THAT USG WILL EITHER CHANGE ITS
INTERNAL PROCEDURES TO MEET PRC'S TERMS OR WILL
TAKE USLO OUT OF THE BUSINESS OF ISSUING NIV'S TO
PRC NATIONALS IN CHINA. THE HAVE PROBABLY CONCLUDED
ALSO THAT WE WOULD FIND IT POLITICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO
PUT PRCLO OUT OF THE RECIPROCAL - AND FAR HIGHER
VOLUME - NIV BUSINESS IT CONDUCTS IN THE US.
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